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Söp'o Political-Military Academy

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1. In late June 1952, the North Korean Army Söp'o Political-Military Academy¹ attached to the Political Bureau of the North Korean Army General Headquarters and charged with training political officers for the army, was at Tongp'o-ri (125-44, 39-05) (YD-3629) at the northern base of Sokch'on Mountain. The school included 200 students, 26 teachers, and 50 guards, messengers, and cooks.
2. In late June the academy was commanded by Colonel KIM Chin-o [REDACTED] KIM was a staff member of the Political Bureau of the North Korean Army General Headquarters before becoming principal of the academy in February 1951, when it was called the Kanggye Military Academy.¹ The deputy principal in late June was Lieutenant Colonel PAK T'ae-su, [REDACTED] a former political deputy commander of a regiment; one of the instructors was Major YIM Kōn-chin, [REDACTED] a former staff member of a North Korean army political bureau.
3. To qualify for enrollment, a prospective student must have fulfilled one of the following requirements: more than 1 year of service in the political bureau;² junior lieutenants and lieutenants with service in the political

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bureau for an unspecified length of time; or recommendation by a political deputy commander of a North Korean army division.

4. By late June the academy had completed 2 terms and had almost completed a third term since its organization as a political-military academy on 1 November 1951. The first term covered the period 1 November to 31 January 1952, the second term lasted from 1 February to 2 May 1952, and the third term from 2 May to 2 July 1952. The curriculum of a term included the following subjects: History of the Communist Party, the Philosophy of Historical Materialism; the Culture, Politics, and Economy of Soviet Russia; History of the Korean Liberation, which consisted principally of KIM Il-song's activities; Politics; and Rules and Regulations of the North Korean Army.
5. Upon graduation after a term at the academy, a student was given the rank of senior lieutenant and either made a political deputy commander of a battalion or appointed to the staff of a regimental political bureau. Ten graduates of the first term and 20 graduates of the second term were appointed to the Political Bureau of the North Korean Army General Headquarters. Because of their ability these graduates will probably be appointed staff political officers in army divisions.
6. In late June three caves at the foot of a hill near Tongp'o-ri were used as living quarters, but training and lessons were given outside. The food served at the academy was better than that given to other elements of the North Korean army. The rations consisted of 900 grams of rice per man each day as well as mackerel, radishes, cabbage, and bean oil; meat was served twice a month.

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Peoples Army Supreme Military Academy

7. In late June the Peoples' Army Supreme Military Academy (Inmin Gun Ch'oeok Kunkwan Hakkyo) with approximately 200 students was in the village of Ussa-dong (125-33, 39-00) (ID-2119). The school was housed in 12 houses which were formerly the residences of officials employed at the coal mine at approximately 125-33, 39-00; ID-2120. The school term lasted from six months to one year.

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Non-Commissioned Officers Engineering School

8. In late June the North Korean Army Non-Commissioned Officers Engineering School was in the village of Sam-dong (125-33, 39-08) (ID-2034). The school had approximately 500 students who were junior sergeants or master sergeants. The curriculum included the following courses: Politics, Road Construction, Bridge Construction, Building, and Explosives. The students were soldiers who had proven themselves to be of high caliber; they were eligible for promotion to commissioned officers upon completion of the six months course. After graduation the students were also entitled to request assignment in front line units or to continue their studies in advanced courses.

Kanggye Scout Training Institute

9. In March the Kanggye Scout Training Institute attached to the Reconnaissance Section, North Korean Army VIII Corps,³ with 40 students and 8 instructors, was in a house at Soho-tong, Kanggye City (126-36, 40-58) (RA-9837). The institute, which was organized sometime prior to 1 December 1951, was set up to strengthen the reconnaissance force by training those who were well acquainted with the front line area. To qualify for enrollment in the institute candidates were required to be males 20 to 28 years of age with previous residence in South Korea or familiarity with the geographical features of South Korea and were required to have recommendations from their county military conscription bureau.

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10. One term of training at the institute covered the period from 1 December 1951 to 29 February 1952. The curriculum included the following courses: Basic Military Training; Rules and Regulations; Reconnaissance Operations; History of the Korean Liberation, KIM Il-sŏng's fighting record until the Korean liberation; and National and International Situations following the Korean liberation.
- 25X1 11. The chief of the Reconnaissance Section, North Korean VIII Corps, was Senior Colonel PIŏm-to, [] the chief of the Kanggye Scout Training Institute was Lieutenant Colonel KIM Il-hwan, [] and the following is a list of instructors at the institute: Captain YI In-sik, [] instructor of Basic Military Training; Captain CHU Sun-kyŏng, [] instructor of Rules and Regulations of the North Korean Army; Lieutenant KIM Ch'un-sik, [] assistant instructor of Basic Military Training; and Senior Lieutenant CH'A Chong-kil, [] rear supply officer.
- 25X1 Guerrilla Training Unit
12. In early June the North Korean Labor Party Hwanghse Provincial Guerrilla Training Unit, numbering approximately 150 men, was called the Political Training Center, and occupied a building 1.5 kilometers east of Wollam-ni (125-19, 38-26) (YC-0256), where it had been since late May 1952 after moving from Sinch'ŏn (125-30, 38-21) (YC-1847). The students at the training unit received 2 months of training for guerrilla operations in South Korea.
- 25X1 [] Comment. This academy was originally the Yongsong Military Academy, which trained officers for the North Korean Army. In February 1951, the academy was reestablished at Kanggye (126-36, 40-58) (BA-9837), and called the Kanggye Military Academy. On 1 November 1951, the academy was directed to train political officers, and in late January 1952, the academy moved to Tongp'o-ri, changing its name to the Sŏp'ŏ Political-Military Academy.
- 25X1 [] Comment. Presumably this is the Political Bureau of the North Korean Army General Headquarters.
- 25X1 [] Comment. [] the Independent Reconnaissance Unit, North Korean VIII Corps, was established on 16 February 1952. []
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